

security number before processing a request for location information.

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[48 FR 38645, Aug. 25, 1983, as amended at 51 FR 37731, Oct. 24, 1986]

§ 303.70 Requests by the State Parent Locator Service (SPLS) for information from the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS).

(a) Only the central State PLS office, and any additional IV-D offices designated under § 302.35(b), may submit requests for information to the Federal PLS.

(b) All requests shall be made in the manner and form prescribed by the Office.

(c) All requests shall contain the following information:

(1) The parent's name;

(2) The parent's social security number (SSN). If the SSN is unknown, the IV-D agency must make every reasonable effort to ascertain the individual's SSN before submitting the request to the Federal PLS;

(3) Whether the individual is or has been a member of the armed services, if known;

(4) Whether the individual is receiving, or has received, any Federal compensation or benefits, if known; and

(5) Any other information prescribed by the Office.

(d) All requests shall be accompanied by a statement, signed by the director of the IV-D agency or his or her designee, attesting to the following:

(1) The request is being made to obtain information or to facilitate the discovery of any individual in accordance with section 453(a)(2) of the Act for the purpose of establishing parentage or establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations, or for determining who has or may have parental rights with respect to a child, or in accordance with section 453(a)(3) of the Act for enforcing a Federal or State law with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child, or for making or enforcing a child custody or visitation determination as defined in section 463(d)(1) of the Act.

(2) Any information obtained through the Federal PLS shall be treated as confidential and shall be safeguarded under the requirements of sections 453(b), 453(l), 454(8), 454(17), 454(26), and 463(c) of the Act and instructions issued by the Office.

(e)(1) The IV-D agency shall pay the fees required under:

(i) Section 453(e)(2) of the Act;

(ii) Section 454(17) of the Act in parental kidnapping and child custody or visitation cases;

(iii) Section 453(k)(3) of the Act.

(2)(i) The IV-D agency may charge an individual requesting information, or pay without charging the individual, the fee required under sections 453(e)(2), 453(k)(3) or 454(17) of the Act except that the IV-D agency shall charge an individual specified in section 453(c)(3) of the Act the fee required under section 453(e)(2) of the Act.

(ii) The State may recover the fee required under section 453(e)(2) of the Act from the noncustodial parent who owes a support obligation to a family on whose behalf the IV-D agency is providing services and repay it to the individual requesting information or itself.

(iii) State funds used to pay the fee under section 453(e)(2) of the Act are not program expenditures under the State plan but are program income under § 304.50 of this chapter.

(3) The fees required under sections 453(e)(2), 453(k)(3) and 454(17) of the Act shall be reasonable and as close to actual costs as possible so as not to discourage use of the FPLS by authorized individuals.

(4)(i) For costs of processing requests for information under sections 453(e)(2) and 454(17) of the Act, and furnishing information under section 453(k)(3) of the Act, the Federal government will charge the IV-D agency periodically. A fee will be charged for submitting a case to the FPLS for information.

(ii) If a State fails to pay the appropriate fees charged by the Office under this section, the services provided by the FPLS in cases subject to the fees may be suspended until payment is received.

(iii) Fees shall be transmitted in the amount and manner prescribed by the Office in instructions.

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EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 73 FR 56445, Sept. 26, 2008, §303.70 was revised, effective Mar. 23, 2009. At 74 FR 23798, May 21, 2009, the effective date was delayed until Dec. 30, 2010. For the convenience of the user, the added and revised text is set forth as follows:

§ 303.70 Procedures for submissions to the State Parent Locator Service (State PLS) or the Federal Parent Locator Service (Federal PLS).

(a) The State agency will have procedures for submissions to the State PLS or the Federal PLS for the purpose of locating parents, putative fathers, or children for the purpose of establishing parentage or establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations; or for the purpose of enforcing any Federal or State law with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child or making or enforcing a child custody or visitation determination as defined in section 463(d)(1) of the Act.

(b) Only the central State PLS may make submittals to the Federal PLS for the purposes specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) All submittals shall be made in the manner and form prescribed by the Office.

(d) All submittals shall contain the following information:

(1) The parent's or putative father's name;

(2) The parent's or putative father's Social Security Number (SSN). If the SSN is unknown, the IV–D program must make reasonable efforts to ascertain the individual's SSN before making a submittal to the Federal PLS; and

(3) Any other information prescribed by the Office.

(e) The director of the IV–D agency or his or her designee shall attest annually to the following:

(1)(i) The IV–D agency will only obtain information to facilitate the discovery of any individual in accordance with section 453(a)(2) of the Act for the purpose of establishing parentage, establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations, or for determining who has or may have parental rights with respect to a child, or in accordance with section 453(a)(3) of the Act for enforcing a State law with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child, or for making or enforcing

a child custody or visitation determination as defined in section 463(d)(1) of the Act.

(ii) The IV–D agency will only provide information to the authorized persons specified in sections 453(c) or 463(d) of the Act and § 302.35 of this chapter.

(2) In the case of a submittal made on behalf of a resident parent, legal guardian, attorney or agent of a child not receiving assistance under title IV–A, the IV–D agency must verify that the requesting individual has complied with the provisions of § 302.35 of this chapter.

(3) The IV–D agency will treat any information obtained through the Federal PLS and SPLS as confidential and shall safeguard the information under the requirements of sections 453(b), 453(l), 454(8), 454(26), and 463(c) of the Act, § 303.21 of this part and instructions issued by the Office.

(f)(1) The IV–D agency shall reimburse the Secretary for the fees required under:

(i) Section 453(e)(2) of the Act whenever Federal PLS services are furnished to a resident parent, legal guardian, attorney or agent of a child not receiving assistance under title IV–A of the Act;

(ii) Section 454(17) of the Act whenever Federal PLS services are furnished in parental kidnapping and child custody or visitation determination;

(iii) Section 453(k)(3) of the Act whenever a State agency receives information from the Federal PLS pursuant to section 453 of the Act.

(2)(i) The IV–D agency may charge an individual requesting information, or pay without charging the individual, the fees required under sections 453(e)(2), 453(k)(3) or 454(17) of the Act except that the IV–D agency shall charge an individual specified in section 453(c)(3) of the Act the fee required under section 453(e)(2) of the Act

(ii) The IV–D agency may recover the fee required under section 453(e)(2) of the Act from the noncustodial parent who owes a support obligation to a family on whose behalf the IV–D agency is providing services and repay it to the individual requesting information or itself.

(iii) State funds used to pay the fee under section 453(e)(2) of the Act are not program expenditures under the State plan but are program income under § 304.50 of this chapter.

(3) The fees referenced in paragraph (f)(1) of this section shall be in an amount determined to be reasonable payment for the information exchange.

(4)(i) If a State fails to transmit the fees charged by the Office under this section, the services provided by the Federal PLS in cases subject to the fees may be suspended until payment is received.

(ii) Fees shall be transmitted in the amount and manner prescribed by the Office in instructions.